Chas. T. Torrey

135

Salem June 28th 1839.

Rev A. A. Phelps.
(Chairman of agency Com'ty
Ex. Com'y Mass A. S.)

Dear Brother,

As Chairman of the agency committee of the Board of the Essex Co. Abolition Society, I am instructed to request, that Rev. Ephraim Goodman, one of your agents, be placed under the direction of our Committee for the present, to labor in this Co: Likewise, to request you to send with him, a lay financial agent, to be also under our direction - We desire their services immediately - It was also voted to request your Board to place all the agents you send into the County, under our direction; all their collections of money, to be paid into our County Treasury - their reports of their labors to be made, in the first instance to us - & transmitted to you - as a return - It was voted to pledge our Committee to do all in their power to pay the salaries and expenses of all agents so employed, and at least one thousand dollars in addition, into your Treasury, before the close of the current A. S. year, ending May 1840. The reason why we cannot make the pledge larger or more absolute now is, that we do not yet know our strength. We hope to do much more than we promised to do - & believe we shall - But we wished to keep within safe limits -

In behalf of the agency committee,
I am yrs for the Slave,
Chas. T. Torrey.
{ Chairman }

(over)

Dear Bro - Here you have it, cut & dried. I have written to Goodman to come here soon as he can & go to work - the sooner the better - We have got our county business well arranged, & all we want now is agents - agents agents - I think, in regard to a financial agent, that Goodman had better get what money he can, at first - and then, six weeks hence go over the same ground, with a finance man, lecture once in a place, and make thorough work with the money matter - In a few instances he can take up good collections as he goes - This depends upon the degree of unity of feeling prevalent - - We have concluded to publish our little county exposé first in a pamphlet form - & then get as many papers as may be to copy it - The Lynn Record, follows suit with Garrison in refusing to copy our Constitution etc - & adds a great deal of abuse - Please state in your reply to them, what days & months the regular meetings of the Ex. Com are holden - - In love yours -

Chas. F. Torrey -

(ch Box 83)

SALEM
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MASS.

PAID

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Rec. Thos S. Phelps,
Recording Sec. of Mass. Abolition Society,
Boston,
Mass.